

Information and Helpful Hints

What is this survey designed to measure?

This survey is designed to measure *attitudes associated with alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD)*. More specifically, it measures perceived risk in the use of ATOD. The items were developed by Lloyd Johnston and colleagues, as part of the Monitoring the Future (MTF) survey conducted at the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research and funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Other institutions (e.g., Western Michigan University [WMU]) and researchers (e.g., Hawkins and colleagues) use the same items to assess student substance use attitudes.

Who is this survey designed to assess?

The survey items have been used by NIDA to measure substance among American high school seniors for 28 years and among 8th- and 10th-graders for 12 years. In addition, these items also have been used by other researchers (e.g., Hawkins and colleagues, in the Communities that Care [CTC] survey) for students in 6th grade. Nevertheless, this measure's suitability with your targeted population should be determined prior to its administration via a review by your local Advisory Council and a pilot test with a small sample of respondents.

When should this survey be administered?

This survey is designed to be administered as a "pre/post" measure immediately before the program begins and at least one time after the program is completed. Note that the posttest includes three items (#14-16) to measure participants' satisfaction with the program, which is a valuable process evaluation indicator.

Is this survey reliable and valid?

Johnston and colleagues as well as others (e.g., Hawkins and colleagues) have found these items to possess adequate reliability and validity for a variety of populations.

Can I modify this survey?

The wording of these items should not be altered because they are identical to items on standardized surveys (e.g., MTF, CTC, WMU) and therefore can be compared to national, state or local results from these surveys. However, not all the drugs listed must be included in the survey, and additional drugs can be added to the survey by creating items with the same "boilerplate" wording as the other items. For example, if a question about perceived risk in using diet pills was added, insert "diet pills" into the following boilerplate sentence, "Use _____ occasionally in order to get high."

What should I do to ensure that this survey is administered properly?

Here are several tips to facilitate good survey administration:

- Make sure those who administer the survey have reviewed it in order to become familiar with its format and wording and to consult with you, if needed, about any questions or concerns they have about the survey or administration schedule, protocol or related matters.
- Introduce yourself if the respondents do not know you. Explain the purpose of the survey and ask for their participation. They are not required to participate and not everyone will be willing to do so.
- Stress that their survey answers are confidential (or private) and that their names will not be on the survey.
- As you conduct the survey, make sure you ask the same questions to all respondents.
- If you are asked a question about a survey item, be neutral in your response – don't lead them into answering the way you want them to answer. If they don't understand a question, instruct them to leave it blank.
- Make sure you ask the questions in the same way to all respondents.
- Say thanks. It takes time and effort to participate in a survey.

How do I score this survey?

Commonly, these items are scored individually by tabulating the percentage of respondents who answer each response choice (e.g., "no risk" and "slight risk") or a grouping of similar response choices (e.g., no/slight risk). These percentages should be calculated separately for the pretest and posttest data.

In addition, an average score can be computed from the percentages across items that measure the same indicator (e.g., ATOD attitudes) in order to form a global (multi-item) indicator for the pretest and posttest[s].

What is the primary reference for this survey?

Johnston, L.D., O'Malley, P.M., & Bachman, J.G. (2002). *Monitoring the Future national survey results on drug use, 1975-2001. Volume I: Secondary school students* (NIH Publication No. 02-5106). Bethesda, MD: National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Student Survey on Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs

Student Code: _____

Date: ____/____/____

School Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Teacher/Facilitator: Please read the following instructions and, as you conduct the survey, read each item to the students.

Instructions: Please take a few minutes to answer this survey about drugs. Please answer honestly. If a question makes you feel uncomfortable, you don't have to answer it. If you don't understand a question, raise your hand and someone will help you.

For each statement, please fill in the circle that best fits your opinion:

How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they. . .

| No Risk | Slight Risk | Moderate Risk | Great Risk | Can't say, drug not familiar |
|---------|-------------|---------------|------------|------------------------------|
|---------|-------------|---------------|------------|------------------------------|

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 2. Try marijuana once or twice | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 3. Smoke marijuana regularly | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 4. Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor) | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 5. Take one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 6. Have five or more alcoholic drinks once or twice each weekend | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 7. Take cocaine (powder, crack) occasionally | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 8. Use inhalants (such as aerosol spray cans, glue, gases) occasionally in order to get high | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 9. Use steroids occasionally | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 10. Use club drugs (such as Ecstasy, GHB, Rohypnol) occasionally | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
| 11. Use heroin occasionally | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |

12. What's your gender?: ① Male ② Female

13. What is your grade?: 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

THANK YOU!

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| | | | | | |
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| 1. Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day | ① | ② | ③ | ④ | ⑤ |
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12. What's your gender?: ① Male ② Female
13. What is your grade?: 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

These next few questions are about the program. Please give us your opinion.

14. If you were to grade this program, what grade would you give it? ① A ② B ③ C ④ D ⑤ F
15. Would you recommend this program to other kids your age? ① Yes ② Maybe ③ No
16. What is the most useful thing you've learned in this program? _____

THANK YOU!